



**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

5251 JOYCE STREET  
VANCOUVER , BC , V5R 4G8  
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**Pastor's  
Corner**

**7th Sunday of Easter  
May 28th, 2006**



"I tell you the truth: it is **better** for you that I go away..." In 16,7  
Dear Parishioners, How can that possibly be? How could it be better for the disciples that Jesus leave them, and ascend into Heaven? He gives them the answer: "If I don't go, the Advocate (the Holy Spirit) will not come to you..." I know a lot of believers who would be tempted to reply: "That's okay! I would rather have your presence. Please stay!"


This is understandable. We are only human. We are only capable of wanting what we perceive to be the greater good, and the greater good, in human eyes, would be to have Jesus palpably present in our lives. How much easier our lives would be... But Jesus knew better. He knew what was to come; the thrill that hadn't even begun. He knew, though his disciples couldn't understand it, that, far better than being with him would be... **being** him, for one another and for the world; living the life of the Holy Servant of God, the life of which his own human life had been, in fact, just the beginning. He knew we would receive the Holy Spirit of God, and that **in the Spirit, we would be Church**; that is,

- we would be his witnesses to the ends of the earth;
- we would be his body, his ministry; together growing, growing, until we reach maturity, full measure, full stature as the Body of Christ;
- we would go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation;
- we would believe, be baptized, and be saved; we would cast out demons, speak in new tongues; we would be exposed to evils, and not be harmed; the sick would recover at our touch.

It all came to pass. We really are, all of the above. It is all the work of the Spirit. But before the Spirit could come, Jesus had to ascend into Heaven. Let us then, be reconciled with the Ascension; with Jesus' absence. True, we lose a lot by the absence of Jesus; but look what we gain: in the Spirit, **we are his presence!** Blessed be God, *Fr. Guy*



**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

- Sun. May 28:** 10:15am Willingdon Park Liturgy (4435 Grange St)  
2:00pm Jr. YM Open Gym (School Gym)  
3:00pm Baptisms (Church)
- Mon. May 29:** 6:00pm Bingo (School Gym)  
6:00pm YM Leaders (Rectory Dining Room)  
7:00pm Contemplative Prayer (Rectory Basement)
- Tue. May 30:** 12:00pm Seniors Lunch Bunch (Rectory Dining)  
6:00pm Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement)  
6:30pm PREP - **Last Day** (School & Rect.Bsmt)  
7:15pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)  
7:30pm Young Adults Bible (Rectory Library)
- Wed. May 31:** 6:00pm Girl Guides (School Gym)  
6:30pm PREP - **Last Day** (School)
- Thu. Jun 01:** 7:00pm Ballroom Dancing (School Gym)  
7:30pm Charismatic Prayer (Church Basement)
- Fri. Jun 02: First Friday**  
3:00pm Divine Mercy (Church)   
11:45am Benediction (Church)  
6:00pm Jr. Legion of Mary (Rectory Basement)  
7:30pm Mass/Exposition (Church)  
9:00pm Benediction (Church)
- Sat. Jun 03:** 8:00am Tai Chi (Seminar Room)  
9:30am Development & Peace (Church Basement)  
12:30pm Bible Sharing (Rectory Dining)
- Sun. Jun 04:** 2:00pm Youth for Christ (Church Basement)  
3:00pm Baptisms 

**PARISH EVENTS**

**LECTORS WORKSHOP**  
Conducted by Chuck Luttrell **Jun. 6**, 7.30pm to 9pm in the Church. Open to Lectors.


**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!**  
**St. Mary's Parish Picnic:** **Sun. July 2, from 12noon - 6:30pm at Fraser Foreshore Park (picnic site 1).** The park is located in Burnaby at the south end of Byrne Road, off Marine Way (by the Fraser River). It will be a **potluck** picnic which will begin with noon mass, celebrated outdoors. Come and join in the fun, share the "potluck", enjoy the games and sing Happy Birthday to Canada. More details to follow later.





**PARISH EVENTS**

**YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS:**  
**Jr. YM OUTDOOR Open Gym** - We are inviting all Grade 6 to 9 students to an outdoor Open Gym this **Sun. May 28** from **2pm-5pm**. We will play outdoor games and enjoy the sun.

**PREP ANNOUNCEMENT**  
St. Mary's PREP Registration Forms for school year 2006-7 are now available. Last chance to avail of the "Early Bird" discount will be on May 31<sup>st</sup>. We are accepting registrations for **Grades 1 to 12**. You may pick up registration forms from the Church foyer. Slots are available on a first-come first-served basis.

**YOUNG ADULT COFFEE NIGHT**  
**Fri. Jun. 2** 9:00pm Rectory Basement. All young adults (ages 18-39) are invited to join the group for coffee, hot chocolate and other refreshments as we engage in an enlightening discussion regarding the controversies surrounding the Da Vinci Code, the Gospel of Judas and the Jesus Papers. 

**SPECIAL INVITATION FOR THE FEAST OF PENTECOST**  
Next weekend, **Jun. 3/4**, the Church celebrates her birthday - The Feast of Pentecost [The Coming of The Holy Spirit was accompanied by the directive to go out and Spread the Good News. At St. Mary's we have 87 Nations to testify to the success of the Spirit.] In honour of this Feast, we invite you and your family to wear your national costume or to wear RED. You will also be invited to pray the "Our Father" in your national Language. 

**YOUNG ADULT HIKE AT GOLDEN EARS PARK**  
**Sat. Jun. 3.** Meet at the Church parking lot at 9am for carpooling. All young adults (ages 18-39) are welcome to the hike. There will be a BBQ ready to go. Please bring proper clothing (swimming in the lake, perhaps) and \$5 for carpooling. 

**PROJECT ADVANCE 2006**  
A quick update on the campaign, we are now 51% of our parish goal. We are half way there, so please send in your pledges and new donors please sign up now! Committee members and volunteers will be available after each mass to collect pledges and register new donors till the end of June.

Thanks again to all for your support in this important event! "If we work together in our Lord Jesus, there is no limit to what we can accomplish. Let us take heart from the faith and courage of our Lord Jesus Christ as we embark on a journey of stewardship"...*Most Reverend Raymond Roussin, S.M. Archbishop of Vancouver.*

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### PRO-LIFE MASS & VIGIL

Peaceful, prayerful vigil for unborn children and their parents. **Sat. Jun. 3**, 9am Mass at St. Joseph's Parish, 20676 Fraser Hwy. Langley. Followed by Rosary at Surrey Memorial Hospital.

### THIRSTING FOR JUSTICE: Putting FAITH into ACTION

Hosted by the St. Mary's Parish, Development & Peace Committee. **Sat. Jun. 3**, at St. Mary's Parish Hall (Church Basement), 5251 Joyce St. Vancouver. 10am - 4pm. Discuss the Social Teachings of the Catholic Church and Catholic Social Action. Learn about our Catholic response through D & P programs in Canada and projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Refreshments provided, please bring a bag lunch. For info: Cora Alcuatas: [coy@telus.net](mailto:coy@telus.net) or Deborah Conradi: [dconradi@shaw.ca](mailto:dconradi@shaw.ca).

### PENTECOST VIGIL 2006

**Sat. Jun. 3**, 7pm-9pm English, 9pm Spanish. Join us for a night of warm Spiritual Music, Praise and Worship. Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 555 South Slocan St. & Pender. 604-254-0691.

### CENACLE QUIET RETREAT

**Jun. 8 - 12** at Rivendell on Bowen Island. Presented by Sr. Kathy Scott and Sr. Monica Kaufer. Come and refresh your body and soul with morning and evening prayer, scripture talks, prayer, music, silence, reading, walks, rest, healthy meals, and magnificent views of the sea and mountains. Private room and bath. Pre-registration required. Please call 604-266-1611.

### ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA FIESTA - 9 DAY NOVENA

**Jun. 9 - 17** at St. Anthony's Parish (Marpole) 1345 W. 73rd Ave., Vancouver. Mass/Novena Mon. - Fri. 7.30pm; Sat. 5pm; Vespers/Novena Sun. 4pm. Anyone who wishes to be a Hermano may call Emma 604-266-1353.

### NOTRE DAME 4th ANNUAL 12HOUR RELAY WITH FLEA MARKET

**Sun. Jun. 11** starting at 8.00am. Join us to help raise funds for the new school at ND. Enjoy exercise, good food, entertainment, games and some good deals. Be a runner/walker and/or buy a table (\$30) to sell off your treasures. Call the ND office for more info: 604-255-5454.



**WESTERN CANADA CHINESE CATHOLIC LIVING CAMP (WCCCLC) 06:** This year's title is "U Turn to God". Online registration has already begun. For further information, please visit our website at <http://www.wccclc.net> or call Joseph Lee at (604) 839-5193 / Patricia Ma at (604) 782-8850.

## COMMUNITY NEWS



**With great joy the Archdiocese of Vancouver announces and cordially invites you to the Ordinations of:**

**Deacon Anthony Ho**

**Tuesday, May 30**, 2006 at 7:00 pm at St. Anthony of Padua Parish (1345 W.73rd Ave., Vancouver)

**Deacon Nicolas Tumbelaka**

**Thursday, June 1**, 2006 at 7:00 pm at Holy Rosary Cathedral (646 Richards St., Vancouver)

**Deacon Alessandro Lovato**

**Friday, June 16**, 2006 at 7:30 pm at Holy Cross Parish (1450 Delta Ave., Burnaby)

**Deacon Justin Huang**

**Sunday, June 18**, 2006 at 6:30 pm at St. Paul's Parish (8251 St. Alban's Rd., Richmond)

**Deacon Henry Yeung**

**Friday, June 23**, 2006 at 7:30 pm at Canadian Martyrs Parish, (5771 Granville Ave., Richmond)

To the Order of Priests through the imposition of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit by His Grace, Most Reverend Raymond Roussin, SM, Archbishop of Vancouver.

### IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MOTHER TERESA

Father Sebastian Vazhakala, M.C., founder and Spiritual Director of the Lay Missionaries of Charity, will hold the retreat In the Footsteps of Mother Teresa at Rosemary Heights Retreat Centre, **Jun. 1 to 4**. For more info please call 604.301.0655.



### SPECIAL MASS AND PRAYERS IN HONOUR OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

**First Friday, Jun. 2** at 7pm The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Rosary, and Consecration to the Sacred and Immaculate Hearts. Please bring family and friends, all are welcome! Refreshments to follow in Holy Rosary Hall. Donations of finger food appreciated. For information regarding Birthright: Please call 604-687-7223.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### WONDERING ABOUT THE DA VINCI CODE ?

Although a work of fiction, this novel and movie make sweeping claims about the historical and artistic facts behind the story. The US Bishops' Conference has sponsored an excellent website with much helpful information to set the record straight: [www.jesus-decoded.com](http://www.jesus-decoded.com). Also, a Program on **Sat. Jun. 3**, 7.30-9.30pm at Holy Cross Parish Hall, 1450 Delta Ave. Burnaby, 604-299-3814. Keynote speaker Fr. Joseph Soria of the Prelature of Opus Dei "Decoding The Da Vinci Code". Discussions, Q&A period.

### SEPARATION, DIVORCE, AND ANNULMENT SEMINAR

Presented by Fr. Bruce McAllister of the Marriage Tribunal, followed by Q&A period. **Sat. Jun. 3**, 10am to noon at St Patrick's Parish (2881 Main St., Vcr). \$10.00 Reg. fee. Call (604.443.3220).

## PARISH INFORMATION

<b>MASSES</b>	Mon - Fri	8:00 am;	Saturday	12:00 pm
	Saturday	5:00 pm	<b>(Anticipation)</b>	
	Sunday	8:15 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm		
<b>RECONCILIATION</b>	Saturday	11:15-11:45 am; 4:15-4:45 pm;		
	Sunday	11:30-12:00 pm		

(An appointment for reconciliation may be made at any time)

**HOLY COMMUNION** Available to shut-ins. Contact Parish Office.

**NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL**

Thursday - 7:55 am; Saturday - 11:55 am

### FIRST FRIDAY

Mass & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 8:00 am and 7:30 pm  
Benediction 11:45 am and 9:00 pm

**BAPTISM** To register your child, contact Parish Office.

**MARRIAGES** One of the couple must be a registered Catholic parishioner of St. Mary's. Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to your wedding date and prior to registering for the required diocesan Marriage Preparation Course.

**PREP** Religious education program for children attending public schools.  
Coordinator: Eli Bautista Tuesday and Wednesday 6:30-8:00 pm

### ST. MARY'S YOUNG ADULT COMMUNITY (SMYAC)

Leaders: Jonquil Francis and Eileen Carlson

Contact: [smyac\\_team@yahoo.ca](mailto:smyac_team@yahoo.ca) Website: [www.stmarys-smyac.com](http://www.stmarys-smyac.com)

**YOUTH MINISTRY** E-mail: [stmarys\\_ym@yahoo.com](mailto:stmarys_ym@yahoo.com)

Coordinator: Eli Bautista Website: [www.saintmarysyouth.com](http://www.saintmarysyouth.com)

**ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** Kevin Smith (Principal)

K-Grade 7 (604) 437-1312 Fax (604) 437-1193 Website: <http://www.stmary.bc.ca>

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS** Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Pastor: Fr. Guy Rivard, OP

Assistant Pastor: Fr. Pierre Leblond, OP

Parish Office: Margherita Bordignon / Ossie Fernandes

Custodian: Zdravko Jankovic